

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215463

NESCO

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM PARIS DATED SEPTEMBER 2, 1977
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO JERUSALEM, TEL AVIV IS REPEATED TO
YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 25694

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, PORG, IS, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO: UNESCO MISSION TO ISRAELI OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES

REF: PARIS 23776

1. DELOFF CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL
KABORE TO GET SECRETARIAT REACTION TO AUGUST 31 AP
RELEASE CONCERNING GOI OFFER TO ADMIT UNESCO TEAM TO
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

2. KABORE SAID THAT THE GOI'S AUGUST 16 LETTER TO DG
(PER REFTEL) AGREEING TO A UNESCO MISSION, HAD ALREADY
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 215463

CAUSED DG SOME PROBLEMS SINCE LETTER HAD STIPULATED
THAT GOI SHOULD APPROVE MISSION DELEGATES. ACCORDING
TO KABORE, THIS WAS NOT IN LINE WITH GOI PERMREP, MIER
JOFFE'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATION THAT THERE WERE NO
PRE-CONDITIONS (NOTE: THIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATION
APPEARS TO CORRESPOND TO THAT WHICH WAS COMMUNICATED
BY JOFFE TO US ACTING PERMREP ON AUGUST 17 AND

REPORTED REFTEL).

3. AUGUST 31 AP RELEASE, WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE CAUGHT BOTH BOTH JOFFE AND SECRETARIAT BY SURPRISE, HAS FURTHER COMPLICATED EFFORTS TO IRON OUT THIS ISSUE. AP RELEASE QUOTED GOI FOREIGN MINISTRY AS SAYING THAT QUOTE ISRAEL NOW AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO THE STUDIES AS LONG AS ALL DELEGATION MEMBERS WERE FROM COUNTRIES HAVING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL OR WERE CHOSEN AS EXPERTS IN THE FIELD UNDER STUDY. IT RESERVED A RIGHT OF VETO OVER INDIVIDUAL DELEGATES. END QUOTE. KABORE SAID THAT HE SUBSEQUENTLY HAD ASKED JOFFE FOR TEXT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S STATEMENT, WHICH JOFFE AGREED TO PROCURE.

4. WHEN DELOFF ASKED JOFFE DURING A CHANCE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 2 IF HE HAD RECEIVED AN OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE AUGUST 31 AP REPORT, JOFFE RESPONDED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD NOT ISSUED AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT, BUT RATHER HAD ONLY RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY TO QUESTION PUT TO IT WHETHER ISRAEL HAD DECIDED TO RECEIVE A UNESCO MISSION TO THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THUS, ACCORDING TO JOFFE, THE ELABORATION OF "CONDITIONS" CONTAINED IN THE AP RELEASE (PARA 3), DID NOT REFLECT OFFICIAL GOI POLICY, AS FAR AS HE KNEW, AND THAT THIS HAD BEEN COMMUNICATED TO KABORE.
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PAGE 03 STATE 215463

5. THE DG HAS ALSO GOTTEN INTO THE ACT PUBLICALLY HAVING BEEN ASKED BY ALGERIAN DEPUTY PERMREP DERRADJI AT SEPT. 2 REVIEW OF 103 EXBD AGENDA WHY THE QUESTION OF EDUCATION IN ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES HAD NOT BEEN INSCRIBED. RESPONDING DG NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN SURPRISED BY AUGUST 31 NEWS RELEASE WHICH-AHD BEEN BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION WHILE ON MISSION IN GENEVA, AND SAID THAT HE ASKED GOI FOR CLARIFICATION OF ITS POLICY. HE HAD HOPED TO SEND A MISSION TO THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES EARLY THIS YEAR, BUT THE GOI HAD REQUESTED A DELAY. M'BOW TOLD PERMREPS THAT HE HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE GOI (EG. THE AUG. 16 LETTER) WHICH CONTAINED CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS WHICH WOULD REQUIRE FURTHER NEGOTIATION. CONCLUDING HIS RESPONSE, HE SAID THAT SINCE THE 19TH GC RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES REQUESTED THAT THE DG KEEP THE EXBD INFORMED ON THIS MATTER, AND SINCE THE DG YET HAD NOTHING CONCRETE TO REPORT TO THE BOARD, IT WAS DECIDED NOT TO INSCRIBE THIS QUESTION ON THE 103 EXBD AGENDA. DERRADJI

POSED NO FURTHER QUESTIONS, AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

6. COMMENT: WHILE NEITHER WE, NOR MOST OTHER DELEGATIONS AND THE SECRETARIAT, WERE AMUSED BY DERRADJI'S INTERVENTION, IT MAY IN FACT HAVE HAD THE EFFECT OF LETTING OFF SOME OF THE PRESSURE WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY EXISTED AS A RESULT OF THIS PUBLICALLY UNANSWERED QUESTION. HOPEFULLY, THE DG'S HAVING HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ANSWER DERRADJI, AND IT SEEMED SATISFACTORILY DONE, PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE BOARD, MIGHT HAVE IMPROVED CHANCES TO AVOID AN OPEN DEBATE ONCE WE ARE IN SESSION. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THERE HAS BEEN NO OTHER ATTEMPT TO HAVE IT INSCRIBED ON THE AGENDA. HARTMAN UNQUOTE
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PAGE 04 STATE 215463

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